

**From:** G Spielmann  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/24/02 9:36pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I oppose the current settlement in the Microsoft anti-trust case.

I am an IT professional, currently working as assistant site manager for the local IT arm of a large, American manufacturing company. I deal with Microsoft products and issues concerning those products on a daily basis. My stance against the current settlement revolves around two issues. First, if one tracks the history of Microsoft, they will see that this sort of anti-competitive behavior persists as part of its corporate operation and, one may say, its corporate culture. Microsoft clearly shows little remorse or concern in these matters and I feel cannot be expected to, in good faith, honor any agreement issued to them by the Department of Justice.

I feel the proposed settlement is lax and will lead to yet another trial such as this in the near future. The second concern I have is one that is even now more prevalent - that of security. In my profession, network security is one of the most mission critical objectives to achieve. The most common roadblock to achieving this goal is the lack of security in many of Microsoft's products. In fact, at my place of employment, it is standard practice not to use certain Microsoft products due to their related security issues. In a post September 11th world, network security is going to be even more important for a wider variety of professions and people. If Microsoft is allowed to operate at the current status quo, their seeming lack of security awareness in their products will no doubt create issues for the US and possibly world at large, if it hasn't already. I feel that the current settlement should be excused in favor of a more strict approach to reprimanding this corporation or, if allowed to operate as a monopoly, they should be held far more responsible for security issues in the products they make.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

Garett Spillman

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